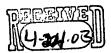
Official



**Patent** 

(1.25.03

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Phoenix, Arizona

Applicants-

Roger M. Lewis

Group -

2673

Serial No. -

09/834,276

Examiner -

Leonid Shapiro

; 2

Filed -

04/12/2001

Atty Docket No. -

H26651

For -

METHOD, APPARATUS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR CONTROLLING LED BACKLIGHTS AND FOR IMPROVED

PULSE WIDTH MODULATION RESOLUTION

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Claims 1-12, 14-18 and 19 are pending in the application. Please reconsider the application in view of the following amendment.

An error in claim 5 was pointed out by the examiner. Claim 5 has been amended herein.

Please see a clean version of claim 5 below.

5 (Amended). A method for improving the resolution of an n bit pulse width modulator having a nominal time period of P<sub>n</sub>, the method comprising the steps of: supplying an additional timer having K associated states and a timer period of P<sub>T</sub>;

associating a modulator output value with each one of said K states; and

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outputting a pulse according to said modulator value during each time period  $P_n$  occurring within said timer period  $P_T$  during each of said K timer states, whereby the resolution of said n bit pulse width modulator substantially equals  $n = \log 2(K)$ .

Please see a version showing the amendments:

5 (Amended). A method for improving the resolution of an n bit pulse width modulator having a nominal time period of P<sub>n</sub>, the method comprising the steps of: supplying an additional timer having K associated states and a timer period of P<sub>T</sub>;

associating a modulator output value with each one of said K states; and outputting a pulse according to said modulator value during each time period  $P_n$  occurring within said timer period  $P_T$  during each of said K timer states, whereby the resolution of said n bit pulse width modulator substantially equals  $[n = \log 2(K)] n + \log 2(K)$ .

Respectfully submitted,

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04/24/03